

State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

****NEWS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2005-07

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Hearing on SAGE aid payment rule scheduled Friday

MADISON—The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction will conduct a public hearing from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, in Room 041 of the GEF 3 building in Madison on emergency and proposed permanent rules related to aid payments for the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program.

Current law requires the department to pay no more than \$2,000 to schools for each low-income student in grades kindergarten to three who is enrolled in the SAGE program. The proposed rule establishes a method to make aid payments over three periods and prorate aid in the event that state funds budgeted for SAGE program aid are insufficient to pay the full \$2,000 per low-income SAGE student.

The proposed rule establishes that payments are to be made to eligible schools in November, February, and June and defines that aid will be prorated equally on a per low-income student basis if funds to make payments in any calculation period are insufficient. Additionally, if adequate funds remain after any calculation period, the proposed rule will allow schools to resubmit their third Friday in September enrollment report and receive funds for additional pupils enrolled in the SAGE program but for whom documentation of low-income status was not submitted at that time.

The hearing site is fully accessible to people with disabilities. A copy of the administrative rule and fiscal estimate are available at < http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/pb/sagerule.html > and http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/pb/sagefn.html >, respectively. A copy of the emergency rule and fiscal estimate also may be obtained by sending an e-mail request to < http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/pb/sagefn.html >, respectively. A copy of the emergency rule and fiscal estimate also may be obtained by sending an e-mail request to < http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/pb/sagefn.html > or by writing to Lori Slauson, administrative rules and federal grants coordinator, DPI, 125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841.

Written comments on the proposed rule must be submitted via U.S. Mail or e-mail to the address above no later than Jan. 19 and will be given the same consideration as testimony presented at the hearings.